

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 01871 301539 Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 SS-15 INR-10 NSC-10 CIAE-00

RSR-01 RSC-01 /063 W

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P 301516 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6068

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PINT YO

SUBJECT: TITO'S HEALTH

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY SOURCE CONFIRMS REPORT CARRIED APRIL 30 BY REUTERS THAT TENTATIVELY PLANNED TITO MEETING WITH VISITING JAPANESE MORMIN OHIRA DID NOT MATERIALIZE BECAUSE TITO HAD BEEN ADVISED BY DOCTORS TO TAKE A REST. SOURCE SAID ACTUAL ILL HEALTH WAS NOT CITED, MERELY FATIGUE.

2. MEDIA APRIL 26 ANNOUNCED TITO ARRIVAL IN LJUBLJANA FOR "SEVERAL DAYS OF REST IN SLOVENIA." IN PAST YEARS, TITO HAS HAD ANNUAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION IN LJUBLJANA SOMETIME AFTER FIRST OF YEAR. WE HAVE SEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS EVENT THIS YEAR, SO IT IS POSSIBLE PHYSICAL TAKING PLACE AT THIS TIME.

3. THERE WILL BE HEAVIER SPECULATION SHOULD TITO NOT BE ON HAND FOR MAY 4 ARRIVAL OF POLAND'S GIEREK, COMING UNDER PARTY AUSPICES, WHOSE VISIT HAS RECEIVED SIGNIFICANT PRESS BUILDUP.

4. NEED FOR REST WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING GIVEN THE HEAVY SCHEDULE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES TITO HAS FOLLOWED IN RECENT MONTHS. TITO IS, AFTER ALL, 82 THIS MONTH, AND HAS NOT HAD ANY EXTENDED PERIOD FREE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY SINCE HE CAME CHARGING OUT OF HIS SUMMER RETREAT LAST

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SEPTEMBER AND OPENED FIRE ON LCY FOR LAXNESS.

JOHNSON

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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ZAGREB
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